



VIRGINIA
HISTORIC LANDMARKS COMMISSION

File no. 76-26
Negative no(s). 5176

SURVEY FORM

Historic name Martin Scarlett Grave Site Common name 'AKA Deephole Plantation, Deep Hole Plan-
County/Town/City Prince William County tation
Street address or route number vic. Deephole Pt., U.S. Military Reservation south of Woodbridge, Va.

USGS Quad Fort Belvoir, Va.-Md. Date or period
Original owner Martin Scarlett Architect/builder/craftsmen
Original use Plantation
Present owner U. S. Government Source of name
Present owner address U. S. Army Source of date
c/o Harry Diamond Laboratory Stories N/A
Present use Military Reservation Foundation and wall const'n N/A
Acreage Located on 658-acre military reser-
vation Roof type N/A

State condition of structure and environs Tombstones are in fair to poor condition. Site is in good condition.

State potential threats to structure

Note any archaeological interest Property is included in Burbage Patent, 1653, first patent in present Prince William County. Location makes it a likely Indian archeological site. Many artifacts found on property by previous owners.

Should be investigated for possible register potential? yes ___ no ___

Architectural description (Note significant features of plan, structural system and interior and exterior decoration, taking care to point out aspects not visible or clear from photographs. Explain nature and period of all alterations and additions. List any outbuildings and their approximate ages, cemeteries, etc.)

Local historian R. J. Ratcliffe, who visited Deep Hole Plantation before it was sold to the U. S. Government, claims he knows where the Scarlett graveyard was. He also knows the location of the plantation seat.

The peninsula, as can be seen on the Fort Belvoir Quad. map, is very low-lying. Elevations range from less than 10 to about 30 feet above sea level. The old plantation house, according to Mrs. Dawson, whose husband spent his childhood on the property, sat on high ground overlooking the mouth of the Occoquan. The old house, located near the property's present north boundary, was a 1½-story gable-roofed house with dormers. It was accidentally destroyed by fire. Beside the old house there was a newer, Victorian-style house which was the Lindsay Dawson residence. The Dawsons report having found many prehistoric Indian projectile points, in addition to two hatchet heads, on the property. Those artifacts are now kept in the museum at Occoquan.

Structures on the U. S. Military Reservation, also known as Harry Diamond Lab, an ordnance research station, besides the guard station at the entrance to the installation, include a moderate-sized complex of buildings in the middle of the peninsula, several other smaller structures, and a large contraption that is said to electronically simulate a nuclear explosion.

The two grave markers, placed side-by-side, are located near the river's edge at the intersection of the unpaved road leading from the main complex and the road running parallel with the water. The place is identified on the USGS map as Taylors Point. Just north of the markers is the military reservation's picnic ground.
Interior inspected? N/A

Historical significance (Chain of title; individuals, families, events, etc., associated with the property.)

Martin Scarlett, or Scarlet, known as a "pioneer of old Prince William," was a member of the House of Burgesses representing Stafford County from about 1680 to 1695. He was also a justice of Stafford, the county from which Old Prince William was formed. Martin Scarlett, a self-avowed Whig in later life, was a longtime political rival of William Fitzhugh, with whom Scarlett vied for the seat in the House of Burgesses. Fitzhugh, a Tory, was also a justice of Stafford County Court. The rivalry between the two men was well-known and sometimes bitter.

In the late 1600s, Martin Scarlett acquired Burbage's Neck, an estate on the Potomac in present Prince William, situated between Neabsco and Marumsco creeks. Scarlett acquired the property from Henry Corbin, who had purchased it from Edward Streater, the second husband of the widow of Thomas Burbage, the original mid-17th century patentee. When the Burbage patent, which extended from the Occoquan to the Neabsco, was divided, the Mason family purchased the upper portion and Martin Scarlett the lower part, which came to be called the "Deep Hole Plantation."

The Scarlett estate included the land where Rippon Lodge, one of Prince William County's oldest and best-preserved residences, is situated. Rippon was built in the early 1700s by Richard Blackburn, possibly beside the site of the early residence of Martin Scarlett.

(continued next page)

Sources and bibliography

Published sources (Books, articles, etc., with bibliographic data.)

W.P.A., Writer's Project, Prince William, The Story of Its People and Its Places (c1941, 1961).

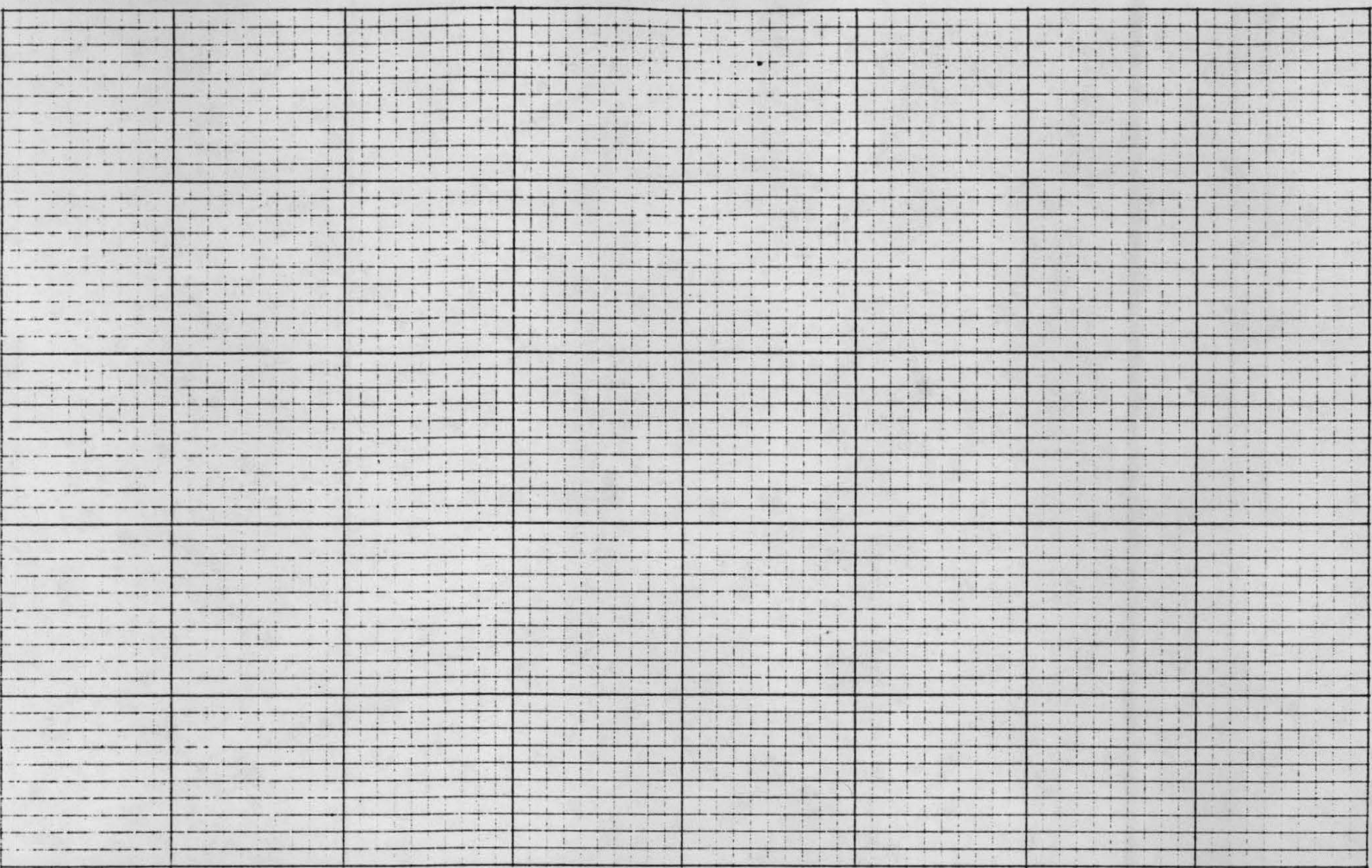
R.J. Ratcliffe, This Was Prince William (c1976), pp. 33-34, & 109; (continued next page)

Primary sources (Manuscript documentary or graphic materials; give location.)

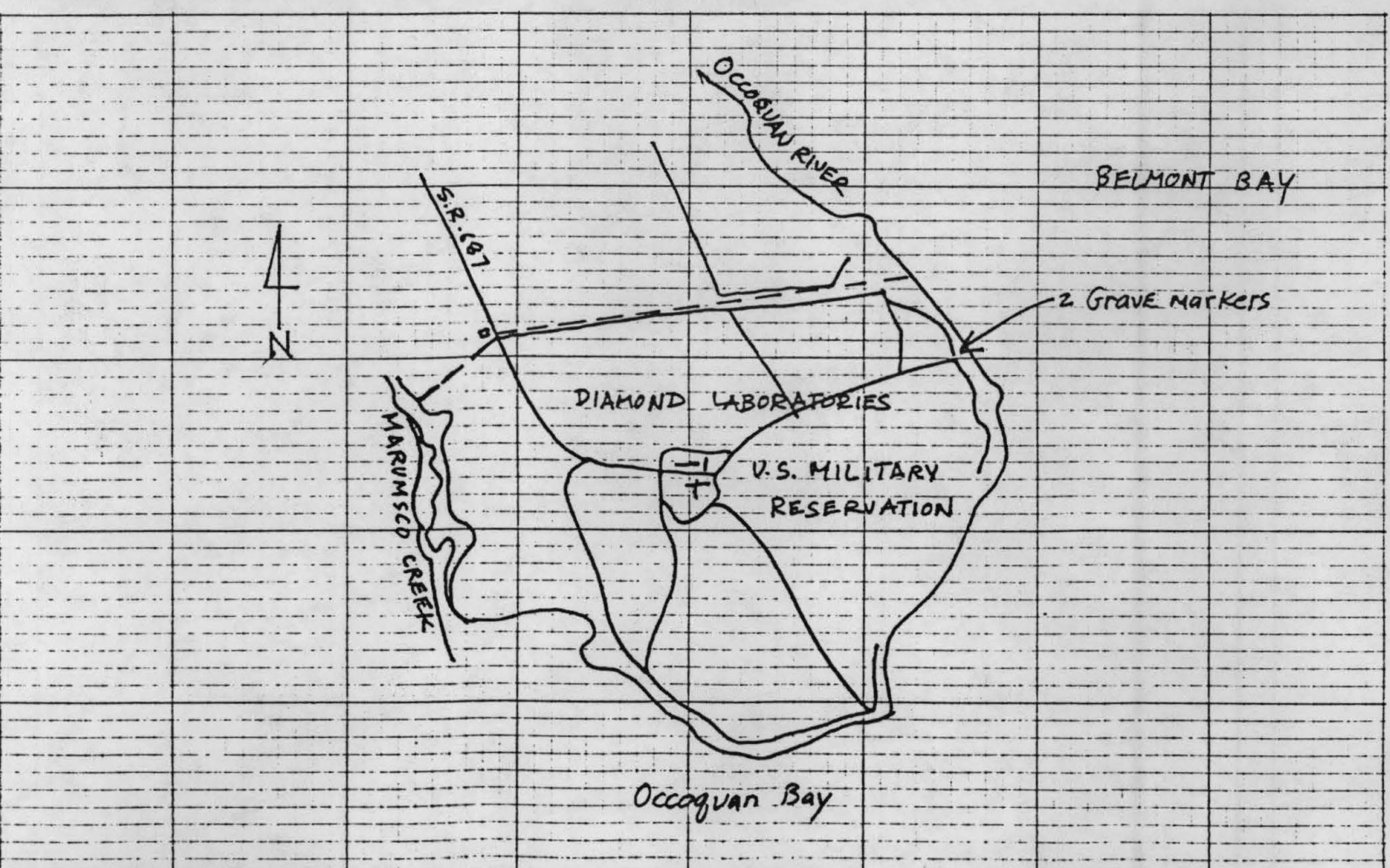
Mrs. Constance Ramirez, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (H.P. Liaison Officer) DAEN-MPO-B, Dept. of Army, Washington, D. C. 20314, may have some information on this site.

Names and addresses of persons interviewed Mrs. Ethelyn Dawson, Woodbridge, Va.; R. J. Ratcliffe, Manassas, Va.; E. R. Conner, III, Manassas Museum.

Plan (Indicate locations of rooms, doorways, windows, alterations, etc.)



Site plan (Locate and identify outbuildings, dependencies and significant topographical features.)



Name, address and title of recorder Frances Jones, Architectural
Historian - Surveyor, NV2DC

Date APR 1981

CONTINUATION SHEET
MARTIN SCARLETT GRAVE SITE

Published Sources (continued)

Fairfax Harrison, Landmarks of Old Prince William (c1924, 1964), pp. 46, 54, 110, 129 ff;
Edith Moore Sprouse, Colchester; Colonial Port on the Potomac (1975), p. 7;
Robert Morgan Moxham, The Colonial Plantations of George Mason (c1975), pp. 4-5.
HABS, Virginia Catalogue p. 300

Historical Significance (continued)

In the late 1600s, Martin Scarlett was surveyor of the road between the Occoquan River and Neabsco Creek, and he was also responsible for the ferry across the Occoquan.

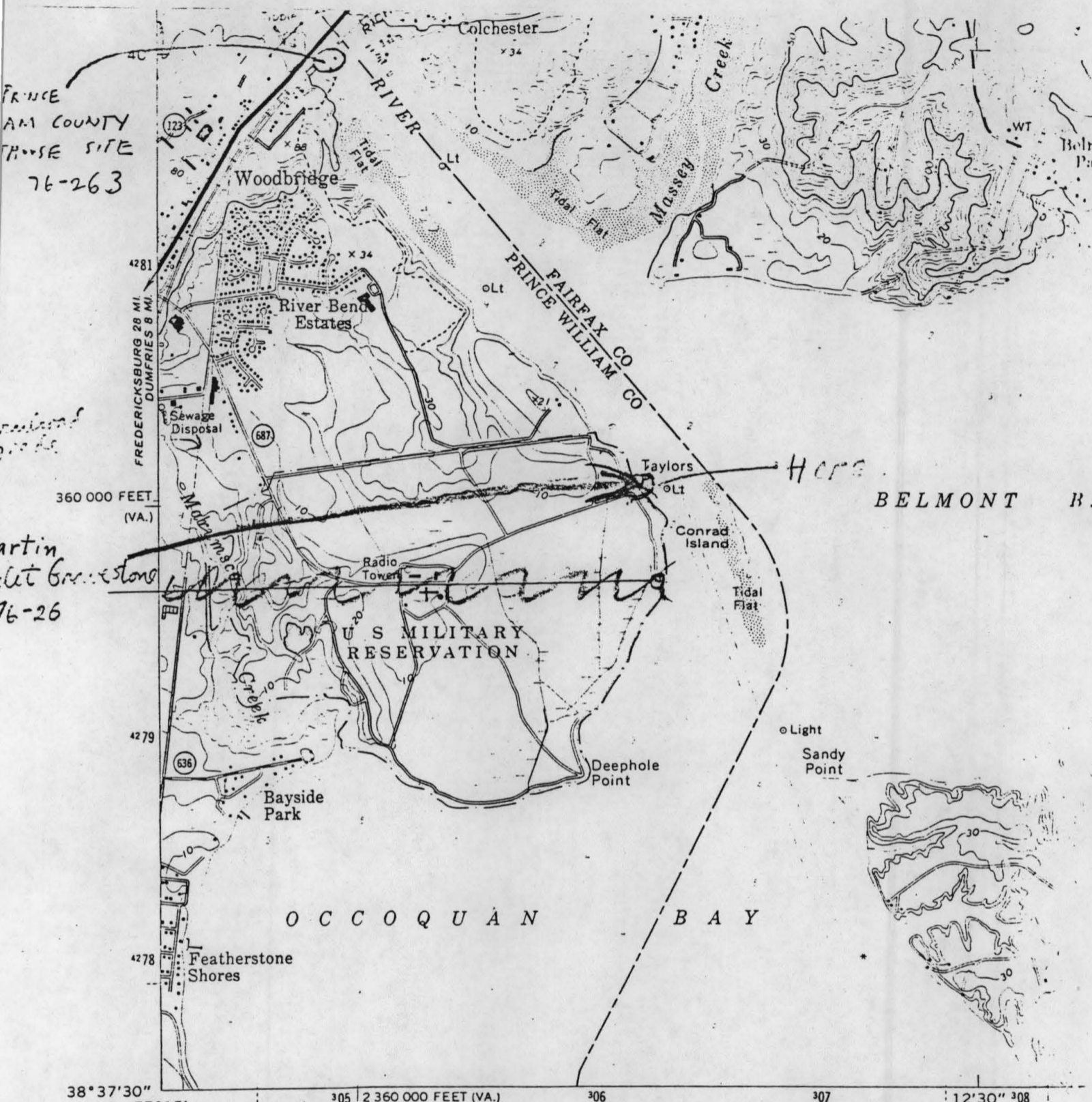
In 1939, the stretch of Potomac shoreline south of the Marumsco was known as Dawson's Beach. A broad view of the Occoquan Bay and the Potomac River beyond-- nearly 5 miles across-- can be seen from high ground at U.S. 1 behind Dawson's Beach.

According to the WPA guide to Prince William County, in 1939 there were "several old tombstones with illegible inscriptions" in the grave near the river. Two tombstones "on an adjoining estate" (those pictured in Ratcliffe's book published in 1976) had inscriptions that read: "M.S./1695/Heare Lyes Martin/Scarlet, Gent." and "John Scarlet, son of Martin/Scarlet, Gentleman, Died 1697." According to R. J. Ratcliffe, Martin Scarlett was buried in a large cemetery on the Occoquan Creek. A former owner of the farm on which the cemetery was located, a tract between Occoquan and Marumsco Creek known as Deep Hole Farm, reported to Ratcliffe that the man from whom he had purchased the property had earlier removed the tombstones and used them for foundation stones for a barn. According to J. L. Dawson, the informant, the Scarlett tombstones, being too large for use, were dumped into Occoquan Creek. Dawson said he rescued the stones from the creek and erected them at each of two corners of his farm, one on the Marumsco and the other on the Occoquan. Martin Scarlett's tombstone is now on the grounds of the U. S. Military Reservation at Woodbridge. Beside it is another tombstone that may be John Scarlett's.

The U. S. Government acquired the property during World War II for use as a military reservation. It is said that the government tore down the 19th century Dawson residence.

PRINCE
GEORGE COUNTY
TRUSS SITE
76-263

artin
at Br. Stone
76-26

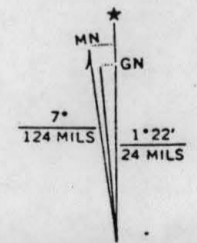


QUANTICO
5501 III SE

Mapped by the Army Map Service
 Edited and published by the Geological Survey
 Control by USGS, USC&GS, and USCE
 Topography by photogrammetric methods from
 aerial photographs taken 1950. Field checked 1956
 Revised by the Geological Survey 1965
 Selected hydrographic data compiled from USC&GS
 Chart 560 (1965). This information is not intended
 for navigational purposes

Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum
 10,000-foot grids based on Virginia coordinate system,
 north zone, and Maryland coordinate system
 1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,
 zone 18, shown in blue

Fine red dashed lines indicate selected fence and field lines where
 generally visible on aerial photographs. This information is unchecked



UTM GRID AND 1971 MAGNETIC NORTH
 DECLINATION AT CENTER OF SHEET

FORT BELVOIR QUAD, ANI